

MINUTES

2013 Annual General Meeting Bay Lake Property Owners Association August 11, 2013

Attendance – 39

Opening Remarks

Glen Vey

Glen welcomed everyone to the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Bay Lake Property Owners' Association (BLPOA). He advised that only paid members for the previous year would be eligible to vote in today's AGM (maximum of two votes per household). As well, Glen noted that questions from the floor would only be recognized from paid members. He requested that members show their voting card and give their name for purpose of the minutes. Questions from non members would not be recognized during the formal part of the meeting; however, any member of the association would be pleased to field questions following the meeting.

The agenda was reviewed.

Guest Speaker

Stephen Scholten, Fisheries Biologist, Ministry of Natural Resources

Stephen gave a presentation on the background of fish life in Bay Lake from the 1940s to the present day. The MNR was on the lake for 2 days in July to test the viability of keeping our Trout Lake designation. A total of 64 fish were caught, with the highest abundance of whitefish (43) and lowest number of trout (2).

There are a number of things that have an adverse effect on the trout population in Bay Lake. For example, disruptions in the food chain of small lakes, the types of other fish that compete with the trout for the limited food sources in a small lake. He also advised that the lakes Dissolved Oxygen level is low at 1.5 per million (ppm) whereas ideally it should be at 7.0 ppm in order to support an ongoing lake trout population.

As a result of the MNRs finding their recommendation is to no longer stock the lake with trout, remove the lake trout designation and that the open all year fishing season regulation be removed. Stocking of other species is not recommended due to the presence of an already diverse fish community.

The process for changing the Lakes designation is an Environmental Registry matter requiring the change to be posted and notification to the municipality and the property owners. This change should take place in 2015.

A full copy of the MNR Report can be found at www.muskokawaterweb.ca and type in Bay Lake SPIN 2012 in the search box.

Q – Randy Webber - Once the trout lake designation is removed, can BLPOA stock other fish (ie. Pickerel)

A – Stephen Scholten - Yes, we can. However, he did not recommend this as it poses a risk to existing fish population.

Q – Glen Vey - If we did want to do this, would we need to apply for a licence
A – Yes

Q – Glen – what species would you recommend?

A – Stephen discouraged any species, as too many species in a small lake just compete with each other and possibly upset the balance that already exists.

Q – Glen Vey - What would Stephen recommend doing with our Fish Fund

A – Recommended leaving the lake alone, don't introduce new fish species

Q – Randy Webber – Did any of his tests measure acidity levels in the lake, and did it cause a decline in oxygen levels

A – No, not an issue these days.

Q - Bob Nimigeon – Could we stock Splake?

A – Yes, possibility – they are in Clear Lake now.

Q – Randy Webber - How can we increase the oxygen levels?

A – Expensive process and not necessarily effective

Q – Ivan Rand – do fish spawn at inlet or outlet? He saw fry of pickerel go down the East river

A – Majority happens in the lake

Q – Where do fry go if the water levels are high at the Outlet?

A – Assume down stream.

Q – Randy Webber – When trout lake designation is lifted, will there be a notice to let outside anglers know

A – Regulation change will remove Bay lake from certain lists, however, information on what species are found in Bay Lake will still be listed for public to see

Glen suggested that other questions be left for John Dunn at the end of the meeting.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Glen Vey

Motion: To accept minutes - Bob Nimigeon

Seconded – Randy Webber

Carried

Treasurer's Report

David Adams

David reviewed the Financial Report and its major items and reported that the Association continues to be in good shape financially. Copies of the reports were made available for the members.

MOTION: To accept Treasurer's Report – Sherry Vey

Seconded – Randy Webber

Carried

MOTION from the Floor – Re: Clear Lake/Bay Lake Hall

“The BLPOA executive may prepare a letter to Clear lake – Bay Lake Hall Association stating that: The BLPOA is content with the sale of the hall and its ongoing use of the facilities, and that we have no intent to disrupt this transaction”

Glen shared the background of the hall, its sale and current use to the best of his knowledge. Jim Hilt, as President of the Clear Lake/Bay Lake Hall Association sold the hall in 2011 to Winning Techniques. The constitution said that proceeds would be distributed to local non profit organizations. Some funds have already been disbursed to the Huntsville Hospital, local fire department and two local churches. The property owners associations, to date, haven't received anything. In order to move forward, Jim has suggested we write a letter stating that BLPOA has no intention of disputing this transaction and state that the Association's letter and decision would be "irrevocable".

Q – Sarah – do we know the exact wording of the disbursement of monies?

A – No

There was no further discussion or questions, and the Motion was voted on and passed.

Environment Report

Steve Morris

Steve made the following points:

The very basis of the BLPOA is the promotion of care and protection of the environment and our lake quality.

A guest speaker like Stephen Sholten helps us understand the lake and some of the things we all can be doing to keep it healthy.

Our water testing program is a very important part of what the association does.

We would like to thank Bill Paterson and Judy Dunn for their ongoing commitment and involvement in making this testing happen.

Test results can be found on the association website.

We have 11 sites which are tested and our site sponsorship has been well received.

So we continue to invite and encourage you to sponsor one of these sites.

We did have a concern a few weeks ago when, during regular testing, 3 sites showed abnormal results. Immediate retesting showed normal results, which reflected the usual "healthy" condition of Bay Lake.

Never the less, a bit of a scare does remind us to be very careful in and around the lake. Some things to remember are:

- Keeping our septic systems in good working order is important
- Discouraging ducks from our ducks and beach area will reduce the risk of swimmer's itch
- Naturalizing our properties or creating a "ribbon of life" with shrubs and grasses between the lake and our lawns will help make Bay Lake as uninviting as possible to the families of geese we have been hosting for the last few years (there are brochures available at the back)
- And certainly bathing or washing hair in the lake is to be discouraged. If you have guests or renters, please let them know

For the past 5 years we have been conducting "Benthic Testing" with the District of Muskoka..

This involves a dedicated group of volunteers counting the various living creatures that are scooped out of the muck on the lake bottom just out from the shore. While there is some fluctuation from year to year and location to location,

the results show “there is a good Biodiversity in Bay Lake” We continue to be close to or above the Muskoka average in most readings.

Pitch-in Day took place on April 20th this year. Thank you to the dedicated individuals who, despite near winter-like conditions, collected a good amount of recycleables, returnables and just plain garbage from our roadways and ditches. Thanks also to Bill Paterson for coordinating this event.

The Township has erected a new fire sign at the Rochester Road turn, so residents, guests and renters will readily be aware of the current fire safety conditions. This is something the Association requested, so thank you to the Township.

On behalf of the BLPOA, Steve thanked everyone who has participated and helped out with any and all of the Association’s environment initiatives.

He also thanked everyone who, on a daily basis, makes a personal effort towards maintaining the health and well-being of our beautiful Bay Lake environment.

Membership Report

Sarah Adams

Our membership for 12/13 was 82, which is a slight dip from the past year (85). Some properties have changed hands and we have been unable to reach out to new owners. There are quite a few renters on the lake, which means it is difficult to know who the owners are. Any help in reaching out to owners you know of would help. 56 members this year so far.

Accomplishments

Glen Vey

- Wants to acknowledge last years executive and volunteers for supporting our association.
- We continue to produce and send out a professional newsletter, thanks for Janice Paterson. Janice is looking for some help next year – if anyone is interested, please let Glen know.
- We also maintain a professional website – David Adams looks after it.
- Thanks to Sarah Adams for beautifying and maintaining the Bay lake sign board
- There is a new fire sign at the junction thanks to the Township
- Comprehensive water testing, benthic testing, thanks for Judy Dunn and Bill Paterson for this.
- The Association held a very successful Pancake Breakfast! Thanks to Sarah Adams for coordinating this event, and all the volunteers that helped make this so successful. This event helps us out financially.

- Great Fun Day – thanks to Winning Techniques for allowing us to host the event at their camp .

We continue to support the hall and make charitable donations to the hospital and the fire department.

Acknowledgement Past Executive Members

Glen Vey

Glen thanked the following past executive members:

David Adams
Lee Davidson
Gaynor Moore
Steve Morris
Bob Nimigeon
Paul Turner

Election of New Executive

Glen Vey

Glen shared that this was his 4th year as president, so will be remaining on the committee but stepping down as president. Being on exec doesn't mean you have to attend every meeting. A good way to understand what is going on in the lake

Nominations from floor

Pat Nimigeon, Brad Goetz and Sarah Adams were all nominated and accepted.

David, Lee, Steve, Bob, Paul and Glen will remain on the committee next year. Gaynor Moore will not be returning next year. Thank you for your past contributions and support.

The Constitution requires the Executive to have a minimum 11 members. Glen requested a Motion from the floor to allow the Executive to function with only 9 members for the upcoming year.

Motion - Bob Nimigon
Seconded - Ed Czapla
Carried

New Business

No new business

Door prizes

1. Dave Housser – picture frame
2. Elaine Danyer – map of Bay Lake

Adjournment

Motion for adjournment was made by Al Davidson

Seconded by Randy Webber

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am

Perry Township Information Session

Following the meeting Mayor John Dunn presented an update of Township activities and responded to questions from the members.